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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Kai Tak Plan

A DECISION by the Hong Kong Government on the extension of the main runway at Kai Tak airport can be expected within the next few months—a decision primarily, if not wholly, intended to give Hongkong landing facilities for the biggest jet airliners so far designed. This will involve the spending of almost \$90 million in the course of the next four or five years of which about half may well have to be financed out of current revenue. Indeed, unless a loan is secured (additional to the \$48 million expected from the Home Government for this scheme) the Kai Tak extension, together with the Tai Lam Chung Dam and other essential development projects may require an increase in the Colony's taxation rates in the not too distant future. Quite apart from the financial considerations the present plans entail a major feat of engineering. They envisage a central runway 7,500 feet long and 700 to 750 feet wide jutting out into Kowloon Bay and require a \$3 million dredging operation to make the extension possible.

It is pertinent to ask at this stage whether Government experts are considering the latest developments in aviation reported recently to the effect that in both America and Britain definite progress has been made towards an aircraft which can take off and land vertically in a space no greater than that required by a helicopter. Cabled reports from Washington state the US Navy will announce this week the development of two propeller turbine fighters which will be able to do just that. Towards the end of last year the Managing Director of A.V. Roe and Co., Sir Roy Dobson, said vertical take-offs by jet liners would be possible in the near future. While American developments are so far confined to propeller turbine aircraft the cables claim the American Air Force had a similar project under way for pure jet aircraft.

REALISING the speed with which new aviation developments have succeeded one another in recent years, has Government considered that by the time Kai Tak boasts of a runway long enough to take the biggest jet airliner in the world, it may no longer be required because vertical take-off and landing by that time may be a reality? It is recalled that although Sir Francis Whittle's first jet fighter flew in 1939, by 1943 De Havilland were already planning the application of jets to civil airliners and had not the war prevented a start being made on this project until 1946 the advent of the Comet might well have been hastened by several years. It may be taken for granted that if this new development can be applied to fighters it will not be long before it is incorporated in airliners both of the propeller turbine type (of which there are many) and the pure jet. It is a truism, in the aviation world that each new plane designed today becomes obsolescent almost immediately in the light of successive developments. This applied, for instance, to the first series of the Comet, for before this aircraft was flying two new and bigger Comets were on the design boards. Necessarily development of airport facilities must keep up as fast as can with new aviation trends and it might be wise if Hongkong's planning authorities consulted overseas experts on this question of vertical take-off first, before committing themselves to the present plans. For these may prove to be a waste of time and money in the years to come.

AMERICA'S H-BOMB DISCLOSURE

Can Be Delivered To Any Part Of World MAR. 1 TEST REVEALED

Washington, Mar. 16.

Mr W. Sterling Cole, Chairman of the Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, said tonight that the United States had the hydrogen bomb and could deliver it anywhere in the world. Previous official statements had referred only to a "hydrogen device."

Mr Cole, who made the statement when appearing on a television programme, said: "We have planes that can carry any weapon we have to any part of the world" from overseas bases.

There was, however, no American plane capable of carrying weapons non-stop around the world.

American military officials had earlier claimed that their present global network of advanced air bases would permit modern aircraft to hit all main Soviet targets.

Mr Cole predicted that within 10 years several atomic reactors or power plants would probably be producing electricity for commercial use.—Reuters.

Israel-Arab War "Inevitable"

Tel-Aviv, Mar. 16.

The Israeli Army Chief of Staff, General Moshe Dayan, said here today that war between Israel and the Arab countries was inevitable.

Speaking at a gathering of reserve officers' day in Tel-Aviv, he said war was inevitable, but it was not known when it would start. He asserted that the Arab states were concentrating all their energy on a plan to annihilate Israel.

The Arab states, General Dayan said, were now trying to weaken Israel through a blockade. The Red Sea port of Eilat, he added, must be open to Israel-bound ships, and the Egyptian blockade against that port could not be permitted.

Israel, said General Dayan, must have modern arms even if it meant sacrifices in other spheres.

The Israeli Minister of the Interior, Mr Rokach, also spoke at a former officers' meeting in Tel-Aviv today, saying that Syria could not interfere with Israel's full sovereignty over the Sea of Galilee. Israel guaranteed free fishing on Lake Tiberias to all its citizens, said Mr Rokach.—France-Press.

Found Poisoned

Locarno, Mar. 16.

Mrs Erika Canaris, the widow of Admiral Canaris, the German secret service leader, who was murdered by the Nazis, has been taken to hospital here suffering from poisoning, it was reported today.

It was understood that her condition was causing anxiety. She is 61 years old.—France-Press.

"Killer" Panther At Large Near Los Angeles

Los Angeles, Mar. 16.

Eerie screams that "sounded like a cat but only more so" early today sent policemen into a wooded area north of Los Angeles in a search for an escaped black panther.

Two policemen heard the screams several times after they were summoned to the area by a man trembling with fright. Other officers who had been searching in a residential section about four miles away where the missing 140-pound "killer" cat was reported seen last night, were called in on the new search. Officers armed with shotguns plunged into the wooded area but failed to spot the black cat.

500 HIROSHIMAS

New York, Mar. 16.

Time magazine said today the United States exploded in the Pacific on March 1 a "thermonuclear device" with 500 times the power of the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.

The weekly news magazine said the March 1 test "makes all its predecessors look like a string of one-liners." It said a November 1952 test produced a fireball 28 miles in diameter with a force calculated at 5,000,000 tons of TNT or 250 times the force of the Hiroshima atomic bomb.

"The force of the (March 1) explosion," Time said, "probably exceeded 10 megatons (500 Hiroshimas). It sent a radioactive cloud billowing to a height that may have exceeded 20 miles. In the thin air of the stratosphere, it seems likely, the cloud slumped over like water tossed from a bucket."

"Twenty-eight US observers and 230 natives of local islands had been evacuated to what had been considered a completely safe refuge, but the unexpected 'fall-out' showered them with radioactive particles. Their exposure to radiation was 10 times greater than scientists deem safe."

"The 1954 blast upset plans for the formal test shot, which will be witnessed by the Atomic Energy Commission, the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Commission, and Dr Edward Teller, the scientist principally responsible for the thermonuclear weapon."

"While scientists feverishly recalculated their data and tried to explain the unexpected force of the big blast, the formal test was postponed for a few days. That test, in which a thermonuclear device will be dropped from the bays of a B-36 on the shrouds of a huge parachute to give the plane time to get out of its way, is expected to duplicate the March 1 explosion."

UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT

Washington, Mar. 16.

At his news conference today, the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, said that the reported burning by radiation of 23 Japanese fishermen in the Central Pacific is an unfortunate accident.

Mr Dulles said that he only learned of the incident this morning and had no information.

Cairo Radio's Allegation

London, Mar. 17.

Cairo Radio last night quoted a Saudi Arabian communiqué as saying British troops had opened fire in the Buraimi-oasis area, killing one Arab.

They Still Don't Believe Us

London, Mar. 16.

Mr Henry Strauss, the Under Secretary to the Board of Trade, said today in a written reply to a parliamentary question that goods imported into the United Kingdom and marked "British Empire made" were liable to forfeiture if the description was false.

He was replying to a question by Conservative Member N. H. Spence, who asked "what steps are being taken to ensure that textile goods imported from Hongkong and marked 'British Empire made' are in fact manufactured there?"—France-Press.

Indo-China Battle

NEW REBEL ASSAULT AWAITED

Salgon, Mar. 16.

The hard-pressed garrison of Dien Bien Phu, French Union fortress in Northern Indo-China, steel-ed themselves tonight for another mass assault by Vietminh rebels — now within half a mile of their main defences.

The Vietminh attack was expected within 24 hours. French bombers flew through driving rain and mist today to pound rebel concentrations with high explosive and napalm; while transport planes dropped ammunition and supplies to the French and Vietnamese defenders.

Others aircraft ferried troops from Laos and other parts of Indo-China into the Red River delta, 175 miles from Dien Bien Phu. The French High Command prepared to throw new reinforcements into the all-out battle.

Since the attack opened on Saturday the crack rebel troops surrounding the fortified Dien Bien Phu valley have stormed two resistance centres. They now control the northern approaches.

But the French claim they paid dearly for their success. A French Army spokesman said the rebels lost 2,000 dead yesterday in their assault on an outpost three miles north-west of the fortress. This was in addition to 1,500 killed on Sunday night and 500 when the French counter-attacked yesterday morning.

A lull in ground fighting was reported today. Officers here said they thought the rebels were "licking their wounds" resting and regrouping for the next stage of their bid to capture the fortress.

The High Command announced tonight that the railway line between Hanoi and its supply port of Haiphong, cut by a rebel raid, had been repaired. The railway is a vital link for the French forces in Tonkin.

The second of the battalion strength outposts guarding the northern entrance to the 11 mile long Dien Bien Phu valley was evacuated yesterday morning, after a 48 hour assault by the rebels. Its survivors fell back on the main defence positions.

The 150 yards length of this isolated stronghold on a bare brown hilltop, stripped of all vegetation, was honeycombed with trenches and dugouts. At the time of the French withdrawal, there were at least 1,500 rebel corpses, strewn around the barbed wire defence of this hill alone. It was officially reported here.

VIETMINH CLAIMS

The Vietminh rebel radio claimed today that rebel forces had reduced Dien Bien Phu to a "completely isolated pocket." The broadcast quoted the Vietminh Commander-in-chief, General Vo Nguyen Giap, as saying the "last battle" against the fortress position was launched by his troops were being waged round the fortress. The radio accused the French Commander-in-Chief, General Henri Navarre, of trying to "break the siege" (see page 2).

McCARTHY v. ARMY HEARINGS

Senator From Wisconsin To Take A Back Seat

Washington, Mar. 16.

The Senate Investigations Sub-Committee voted today to explore at public hearings, with the witnesses under oath, the charges and counter-charges between Senator Joseph McCarthy (Republican, Wisconsin), its Chairman, and Army officials.

Senator McCarthy himself agreed to take a seat in the background — with Senator Mundt sitting as the acting chairman.

Senator Mundt presided at the closed door meeting at which five resolutions were adopted, setting up the ground rules.

Senator Mundt announced the sub-committee's decision at a news conference which all members attended.

At his direction a stenographer who had attended the hearings to keep the official record, read from his notes resolutions which declared:

1. That the sub-committee would run the inquiry.
2. That "all sworn testimony would be taken in public sessions."
3. That Senator Mundt as Acting Chairman of the inquiry, would be empowered "to employ such counsel and staff" as he deemed necessary under the rules of the sub-committee.

Senator Mundt's selection must be confirmed by a majority vote of the sub-committee. The resolution also declared that the staff must be "acceptable to and responsible to" Democratic members as well as Republicans.

4. That the sub-committee should "proceed to the holding of these public hearings... to the exclusion of all other hearings."

5. That the sub-committee should adjourn until next Tuesday at 3.30 p.m., GMT, when Senator Mundt would report what had been done about hiring the staff.

Meanwhile the Republican National Committee, which helped prepare the text of Vice President Richard Nixon's remarks when he criticised Senator McCarthy in a radio television talk last Saturday night, is apparently avoiding scheduling Senator McCarthy as a party speaker in future.

DOES NOT CARE
Its official attitude seems to be that since President Eisenhower was displeased with Senator McCarthy's tactics, it will quietly become unworkable for arranging any further engagements until the Senator becomes more "tractable."

But Senator McCarthy gave every indication that he does not care whether the Republican National Committee sponsors his future speeches or not.

Moreover, there were broad hints that his speaking style and choice of themes will not be toned down.

He is expected to use a near version of the "20 years of treason" theme that brought angry protests earlier this year from Democrats.

Senator McCarthy is going through his committee files for ammunition and indicated he is hoping to come up with 20 specific cases of what he calls treason.

He will speak in Chicago tomorrow and the next day, in Milwaukee on Friday and Oklahoma City on Saturday.—Reuters.

Joins In Hunger Strike

Cairo, Mar. 16.

An American woman journalist, Charlotte Weller, was participating in a strike tonight along with nine Egyptian feminists with a view to obtaining women's suffrage. Mrs Weller, the wife of the Rome correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, arrived here yesterday as part of a cruise on the steamship Independence when she learned that "the daughters of the Nile" had been on a hunger strike for women's suffrage for four days. She asked the President of the Feminist Foundation, Doria Shauki, if she could join them. She has confined herself to a diet of water with a few drops of lemon juice. She informed her fellow strikers, however, that she would stay with them only until Thursday, when the 48th anniversary of the 1905 revolution is due to leave on the next stage of its cruise. Meanwhile about 20 suffragettes sought a meeting with the Egyptian President, Mohamed Naguib, today while he was meeting with a number of the Revolutionary Council and the Cabinet.

The women, who wanted to present a petition to the President, were stopped by the Police. Three of them were allowed to wait for President Naguib in an adjoining room. Mrs Weller told an AFP correspondent that she wanted Egyptian women to know that American women were with them.—France-Press.

Rush To Adopt Abandoned Baby

Melbourne, Mar. 17.

Melbourne Police Headquarters have had more than 100 phone calls in 24 hours from people wanting to adopt a four-month-old baby boy who was found abandoned in a fruitbox in the city.

Two women claimed they were the child's mothers but their descriptions did not resemble the woman the police are searching for.

The police believe the mother may have abandoned the child while she looks for work and will claim him before he becomes a ward of the state. They said the baby, if unclaimed, would become a ward after three months and could then be legally adopted.—China Mail Special.

Special Guard For Churchills

London, Mar. 16.

Sir Winston and Lady Churchill were kept under unceasing watch by armed guards from today, following the receipt of an anonymous letter threatening the life of the Prime Minister's wife.

The letter, posted in London, was sent to the Prime Minister's official residence, No. 10, Downing Street.

Scotland Yard detectives fear that it has "a ring of truth" which is missing from letters usually sent to Sir Winston Churchill, threatening reprisals to Britain's fight against the Mafia in Kenya.

Believing the threatened assassins might be attempting, Commander Leonard Burt, Chief of Scotland Yard's special branch, has ordered extra plain clothes police to guard the Downing Street house and the Prime Minister's country house at Westminster in Kent.

Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, the Home Secretary, and Sir John Nott Bower, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, are said to have conferred with the Prime Minister before deciding to strengthen normal security precautions.

The letter is now being examined for fingerprints and other clues at its source.—Reuters.

Spurned Woos Throws Grenade

Rome, Mar. 16.

Filippo Cardellini, 62, was arrested yesterday on charges of throwing a hand grenade at 44-year-old Cecilia Dorazzi because she ignored his wooing.

She was only slightly injured by the explosion.—United Press.

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"THE LADY WANTS MINK"
A Republic Picture

MORE EAST-WEST TRADE FORECAST

Economists' Reports To Randall Commission Released

Washington, Mar. 16.

The world appears to be at the threshold of a new increase in East-West trade, according to a staff report of the Randall Commission on foreign economic policy which was published today.

This prospect was attributed on the one hand to the surpluses of agricultural and industrial products which are now accumulating in the free world and, on the other hand, to the indication that countries of the Soviet bloc are again interested in purchasing consumer goods.

The Randall Commission, which is about to disband, published 60 technical papers by professional economists which guided discussions culminating in the formal report made to President Eisenhower and Congress in January this year.

These papers are not in themselves statements of policy, but their analyses and data were expected to have some influence on the Eisenhower Administration and Congress in the evolution of a permanent foreign economic programme. The White House has not yet transmitted the definitive programme to Congress, but the Randall report has been studied in many departments.

The Randall Commission staff report said the interest of the Soviet bloc in consumer goods has been indicated by purchases of 20,000,000 pounds of Danish butter, some tens of thousands tons of Cuban sugar, large amounts of French textiles, a considerable quantity of Australian wool, and large quantities of United States cotton.

The Soviet bloc was said to have indicated interest also in free world meat and hides, tobacco, milk and other edibles, and in refrigerator ships and fishing vessels.

The Soviet bloc, the report said, is again offering manganese to the United States and Western Europe, and has made petroleum sales to numerous countries including Sweden, Argentina and Israel.

The repeated efforts of Soviet bloc agents to circumvent the West's trade controls is a further indication of their (the controls) effectiveness, the staff paper said.

The latest shift in Soviet bloc trade policy, however, has

Inconsequential Effect

The Randall Commission's staff said the United States in 1951 imported merchandise valued at \$10,800,000,000 of which about \$6,000,000,000 entered duty free.

In the hypothetical event of the United States tariff system being suspended, there would be an inconsequential effect on free-list commodities, which include coffee, natural rubber, newsprint, paper, unmanufactured copper, cocoa, tin, vegetable fibres, undressed furs and fertilizer materials.

About 40 per cent of the dutiable imports would not be noticeably affected by the suspension of tariffs. This group included petroleum, cut diamonds, birch, lumber, nickel and lead.

"Tariffs are relatively unimportant to the trade in these commodities," the papers said.

As to the remaining 60 per cent of dutiable imports, tariff suspension might possibly have the following effects:

A minimum increase of \$673,600,000 or a maximum increase of \$1,434,700,000 annually from the 1951 imports base of \$2,144,800,000 affecting linoleum (from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands), cotton hosiery (from France and the United Kingdom), woollens and worsteds (United Kingdom), and apparel wool (largely from Australia).

BIGGEST CHANGE

In the machinery and vehicle group the biggest changes would be in full-fashioned hosiery, knitting machines (United Kingdom and Germany), and sewing machines (Japan, Germany, Italy), the papers said.

In the miscellaneous group, they added, the changes would be in clocks (France, Switzerland and Germany), optical instruments (Japan, Germany and France), and toys and dolls (Japan, United Kingdom, and Germany).

The Randall Commission staff reports said the United States was at present importing about 1,000,000 barrels of oil daily, including:

(Crude) oil imports of about 918,000 barrels a day; of which about 528,000 barrels per

day come from the Eastern hemisphere and the balance from the Western hemisphere, primarily Venezuela.

Residual fuel oil of about 400,000 barrels per day, primarily from the Netherlands West Indies and Venezuela; and a small quantity of miscellaneous products.

"A strong case can be made for continuing crude oil imports at recent high levels or even higher levels," the papers said.

"Oil is not only an important factor in our world trade but it has stimulated a major part of our private capital investment overseas since World War II.

"Moreover, our investments in, and our imports from, certain foreign oil producing areas have contributed greatly to our political interests in those areas. No one can say what would have happened politically in the Middle East, which is in part contiguous with the Soviet Union, if our large oil companies had not taken an active investment interest." — United Press.

First Flight At 94

Johannesburg, South Africa, Mar. 16.

Harris Kaplan, aged 94, left by plane today for Israel "where I want to die."

He will settle in Jerusalem. It was his first air flight. — United Press.

UK Tobacco Companies' Grant For Cancer Research

London, Mar. 16.

The Medical Research Council has received the first instalment of the £250,000 offered by British tobacco companies for research into the relationship between smoking and lung cancer. It was announced here today.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Mr John Bevin, told the House of Commons that the Council, a government sponsored body, had accepted the tobacco companies' offer and the money would be paid annually in seven equal instalments.

In a discussion on air pollution, Mr Norman Dodds (Labour) said: "There is informed evidence that smoke and smog can cause cancer or have some effect on cancer."

Mr Ernest Marples, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing, replied that the government committee on air pollution was in close touch with the Medical Research Council, which comprised the greatest experts on how smog affected cancer. — Reuter.

"Purged Heretics" Returning To Power In Russia

(By Don Dallas, Former Reuter's Correspondent in Moscow)

London, Mar. 17.

Political "heretics" of the Stalin era are re-emerging in powerful posts in Premier Georgi Malenkov's old regime. This trend was emphasised today with the appointment of philosopher Georgi F. Alexandrov to the post of Soviet Minister of Culture.

Alexandrov was dropped in 1947 for giving too much credit to "bourgeois" philosophers in a book on West European philosophy.

He had been awarded a Stalin Prize for the book, but later Andrei Zhdanov, then the Kremlin's cultural dictator, decided Alexandrov and the Stalin Prize Committee had slipped up.

He and his supporters said Alexandrov had given too little credit to "Marxist-Leninist" views. The philosopher was ordered to rewrite it in consultation with party propagandists to put it firmly back on the party line.

He was also dropped from his post on the editorial board of the Communist Party's theoretical journal, *Bolshevik*, now renamed *Kommunist*.

For several years little was heard of him. But during the past year Alexandrov has been making a comeback. Last December he headed a delegation to a scientific congress in India. In February he was awarded the Order of Lenin—highest Soviet civilian award.

Now he takes over direction of the Ministry of Culture, which controls state radio, state publishing, literature and the arts.

EUGENE VARGA

Parallel of the case of Alexandrov is that of Hungarian-born economist Eugene Varga.

Varga, who maintained that a production crisis in the United States was far from inevitable, was strongly criticised in 1947. He also referred to the "Peoples' Democracies" as having basically

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In the University of California "Most Powerful Atom Smasher In World" Now Working

New York, Mar. 16.

The University of California announced today it had put into operation the most powerful atom-smasher in the world, "a new tool to reveal the still-unsolved mysteries of the atom."

The new machine is called a bevatron. It cost \$9,000,000 to build and went into operation on Feb. 2. The Atomic Energy Commission provided the money.

The bevatron will be used to produce synthetic cosmic rays and mesons which are the "glue" that binds together atomic nuclei.

Chairman Lewis L. Strauss of the AEC, in a statement issued in Washington, said operation of bevatron was another step in the AEC's programme to keep America in the forefront of atomic progress.

"Nuclear progress is not simply a matter of building power plants and weapons with present knowledge," he said. "It is even more a matter of learning, for future use, what we do not yet know about the atom."

The Director of the University of California radiation laboratory and Nobel Prize winner, Dr Ernest O. Lawrence, said although science has extracted energy from the atom, "we are still far from an understanding of the forces and processes that govern the atomic nucleus."

"The bevatron gives us the means to make laboratory experiments of the nucleus that have not been possible before."

BIGGEST MAGNET

"We do not know what we shall find, for if we did, there would be no need to build the machine. We do know that every time we have extended the energy range of nuclear research we have increased our understanding of the fundamental nature of the nucleus."

The bevatron contains the world's largest magnet, the outside diameter of which is 135 feet. The magnet stands 14 feet high and is roughly doughnut shaped. Its total weight is 10,000 tons.

The magnet is the heart of the bevatron. Its purpose is to keep protons injected into the

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DISPUTE OVER US TO DECLARE WAR

Canal Zone Casualties

Calcutta, Mar. 16. Thirteen Egyptians and five British have been killed in the Suez Canal Zone in incidents since the beginning of 1954, a British Embassy spokesman said tonight. Figures for wounded in the same period included 29 Egyptians and five British. Besides these, nine British soldiers have disappeared without trace and are considered as probably victims of some form of massacre. The spokesman added that there was still no news of the two soldiers reported missing since yesterday. —France-Press.

Rome's "Drug Orgy"

Trial:

Cabinet Backs Father Of Piccioni

Rome, Mar. 16. The Italian Cabinet today expressed its confidence in the Foreign Minister, Signor Alcide De Gasperi, who was reported to be planning to resign because his son Piero has been mentioned in Rome's sensational "drug orgy" trial.

The Cabinet met today to consider the political implications of the case, which has involved many society people.

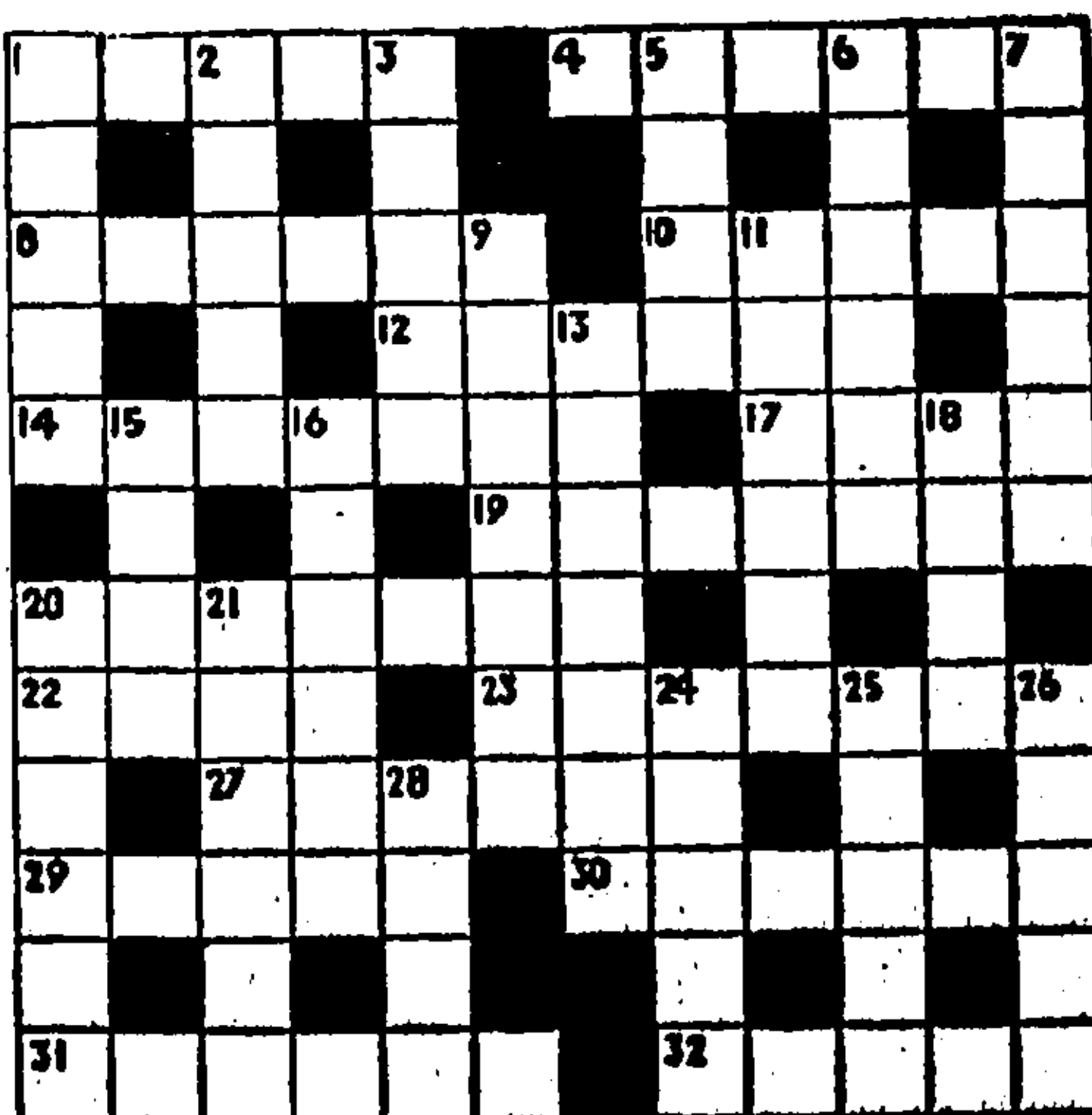
The main purpose of the meeting was to brief Signor Raffaele De Gasperi, Liberal Minister without portfolio, on the handling of his investigation into charges of corruption in high places, ordered as a result of the trial.

The Cabinet also named Signor Giovanni Saraceni, Prefect of Turin, as Police Chief for the Ministry of the Interior, to replace Tommaso Pavone, who resigned after witnesses had claimed that he helped to cover up the death of a girl, Wilma Montez, after an alleged orgy.

All Italy has been shocked by the trial. In court is a young journalist, Silvano Muto, charged with publishing a "false and tendentious" account of Miss Montez's death.

He claims she died of an overdose of drugs. The police state she was drowned while bathing her feet. —Reuters.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Suffers continuous pain (6).
 - 4 Wooden hammer (6).
 - 5 Narrative poem (6).
 - 6 Kind of thread (6).
 - 12 Matures (6).
 - 14 Renegade (7).
 - 15 Experiment (4).
 - 16 Joins closely (7).
 - 17 Breaks up (7).
 - 18 Bird's home (4).
 - 19 Sporting dogs (7).
 - 20 Unruffled (6).
 - 21 Eaten with onions (5).
 - 22 Make tight (6).
 - 31 Loathing (6).
 - 32 Full (5).
- DOWN**
- 2 Precincts (6).
 - 3 Board game (6).
 - 5 Clever (4).
 - 6 Diminutive (6).
 - 7 Negotiates (6).
 - 8 Bishop's domain (7).
 - 9 Closely coupled (6).
 - 10 Gift (7).
 - 11 Italian capital (4).
 - 12 Part of the foot (6).
 - 13 Communion (4).
 - 14 Crab (6).
 - 15 Help (6).
 - 16 Instruct (5).
 - 23 Additional (5).
 - 24 Scored (5).
 - 25 Check (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3. Strength, 8. Lord, 9. Resolute, 11. Grenades, 13. Less, 15. Collides, 18. Director, 19. Sign, 21. Carousal, 25. Relator, 26. Mute, 27. Permeate. Down: 1. Fog, 2. Savv, 4. Tied, 5. Error, 6. Gauge, 7. Hood, 9. Rabbit, 10. Bower, 12. Root, 14. Aroma, 16. Divan, 17. Band, 19. Ship, 20. Utter, 31. City, 32. Rest, 33. Down, 34. Less.

Senator Ferguson's View On Dulles's Statement

Washington, Mar. 16.

The chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, Homer Ferguson, today took issue with the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, on his statement yesterday that the President could commit the United States to military action without Congressional assent.

Mr Dulles told a Press conference that, by ratifying the NATO and Rio treaties the Senate authorised the President to take whatever action he felt necessary in a sudden attack on one of those treaty allies. If London or Paris was bombed, or any NATO or Latin-American nation attacked, the President can order massive retaliation without waiting for Congress to approve, he said.

Senator Ferguson told reporters he believed the President's power to take independent action under the treaties was limited to cases in which the attacked country was host to United States armed forces.

Only Congress could commit the United States to come to the assistance of an Allied nation where there were no American troops, he said. He explained that if an enemy force were to penetrate into Western Germany, where US troops were stationed, for instance, the President need not refer to Congress before acting.

"If another nation is involved without United States troops, then Congress must act," he said.

WAR DECLARATION

Commenting on Mr Dulles's remarks, Senator Ferguson said even in cases where the President had properly ordered retaliatory measures against an aggressor, he should promptly refer this action to Congress because "only Congress can actually declare war."

The Senator also strongly emphasised that the United States regarded itself as closely bound to its allies in the new policy of "massive retaliation." Senator Ferguson, who has not been regarded as an active champion of international co-operation, said he fully shared the views of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Arthur Radford, and the Secretary of Defence, Mr Wilson, that the policy of "massive retaliation" was "one that has to be worked out with our allies." —United Press.

Caracas Conference

US Abstains From Talks On Colonialism

Caracas, Mar. 16.

The United States refused to serve today on an Inter-American Conference Committee named to draft a resolution on the colonial issue in the western hemisphere.

Mr Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa, President of the Judicial-Political Committee, named an eight-nation Sub-Committee, including the United States, to draft a resolution for consideration tomorrow.

But the United States delegate, Mr John Moors Cabot, asked that the U.S. be excused from serving because of the position of his Government on the colonial question at this conference.

Mr Cabot expressed that position in earlier extemporaneous remarks before the Committee. He said that the United States felt this conference was not an appropriate forum for consideration of an important matter involving European nations—Britain, France, and the Netherlands—who were unable to express their views.

He pointed out that all the American Republics are members of the United Nations and contended that that was the proper forum for such a discussion.

The colonial powers also are members of the world organisation, he noted.

COULD NOT VOTE

Mr Cabot said his delegation regretted that it could not vote in favour of the colonial proposals under discussion.

The representatives of several delegations spoke on the colonial question as the Commission continued consideration of the Brazilian resolution which would have the conference go on record in favour of self-determination by the colonial peoples and recommend United Nations trusteeship for those not yet ready for self-government.

All favoured elimination of colonialism in the western hemisphere, but there was no agreement on methods.

After more than two hours of discussion without reaching any definite conclusions, it was agreed to establish a working sub-committee to draft a resolution harmonising the views expressed in three documents submitted thus far by Brazil, Argentina, and the American Committee on Dependent Territories which met in Havana in 1949. The Sub-Committee consists of Brazil, Argentina, Guatemala, Venezuela, El Salvador, Chile and Ecuador. —United Press.

CRASH INQUIRY BEGINS TODAY

Singapore, Mar. 16.

The official inquiry into the BOAC Constellation crash at Kallang airport last Saturday, in which 33 persons were killed, will begin tomorrow morning.

Sir Miles Thomas, Chairman of BOAC, will hear oral evidence to be given by the Captain of the Constellation, Captain T. W. Hoyle, and other members of the crew.

The inquiry is to last a week. Three observers—one each from BOAC, the British Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Department of Civil Aviation, Singapore—will attend the inquiry. —Straits.

AUTHORITY

Stars In A Party Mood



Attractive Marilyn Monroe (right) and her equally famous film star friend, Lauren Bacall, are in a happy mood as they arrive together to attend a party in Hollywood. —Express Photo.

MONTAGU TRIAL

Counsel Says Airman Has "Foul Romantic Imagination"

London, Mar. 16.

A 21-year-old self-confessed homo-sexual told an all-male jury here today that Lord Montagu of Beaulieu twice wanted to commit serious offences with him.

The witness, Aircraftman John Reynolds, said on both occasions he refused to consent but admitted that indecency occurred.

He was giving evidence at the second day's hearing of the continued trial of the 27-year-old English Peer, Lord Montagu and his second cousin, Michael Pitt Rivers, 37, and Peter Wildewood, 30-year-old London journalist, face 18 homo-sexual charges. They have all pleaded not guilty.

Mr H. B. Hylton Foster, Pitt Rivers' counsel, cross-examined, claimed that a tale Reynolds told about associations with Major Pitt Rivers "was a pack of lies" told out of some "foul romantic imagination" of his own. Reynolds replied: "No, no."

Airman John Reynolds gave evidence admitting that he was a sexual pervert for a long time past and specified that unnatural acts committed between himself and Lord Montagu had been by mutual consent and that he had not been ashamed.

But under cross-examination Reynolds admitted he did not remember ever telling the police that Lord Montagu had committed an unnatural act with him. Finally, he said, Lord Montagu had, in fact, never committed an unnatural act with him.

SAVE HIS SKIN

Earlier today Edward McNally was cross-examined by Mr Peter Rawlinson, Wildeblood's counsel, who suggested that he had never had any "indecent relations" with Wildeblood. McNally said: "I did."

McNally, who had given evidence about homo-sexual parties on Lord Montagu's estate, denied he had been telling lies to save his own skin. He left the witness box after giving evidence for over five hours.

Before he left the witness box after being cross-examined for over three hours, Reynolds said it was not true that six men had committed unnatural acts with him as he had stated in preliminary hearings. "The number should be three," he said.

During the day the three accused sat motionless together, only occasionally exchanging a few words. The trial was adjourned until tomorrow. —Straits.

Soviet-American "Spy War" Reported In Japan

Tokyo, Mar. 16.

Agents of the United States military intelligence and members of a large scale Soviet spy ring in Japan are waging a "spy war," according to latest Japanese press reports.

These reports spread following the disappearance of a member of the unrecognised Soviet Mission in Tokyo. The Mission claimed the missing man, Yuri Rastvorov, had been kidnapped by United States intelligence officers.

Japanese sources, however, said that Rastvorov was a member of the Russian secret police and director of Soviet espionage activities in Japan. The same sources said that the diplomat was a favourite of the late Lavrenti Beria, executed former chief of the Soviet political police.

Tokyo Metropolitan Police headquarters and officials of the Ministry of Justice refuse to comment on the reported "spy war". The absence of anti-espionage laws, and the death penalty makes Japan a safe field of operation for spies. North Korea and Soviet-occupied Sakhalin are only 600 miles from Tokyo. Japanese police say that there is a considerable two-way traffic between Soviet Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands and Japan's northern-most island of Hokkaido.

The nearest islands in the Kuriles chain can be seen from Hokkaido's northeastern coast on clear days.

MANY ARRESTED

Large numbers of North Koreans, many of them alleged to be Communists, amass themselves into Japan every year. Many are arrested before they land. Others make their way from lonely coastal areas of northwestern Honshu to the island cities where they mingle with the large Korean population.

Under the Japan-United States administrative agreement which covers the stationing of United States troops in Japan, civilians may be tried in

Japanese courts for acts detrimental to the security of American personnel or bases.

The security clause is so loosely worded, however, that Japanese judicial authorities say it would be difficult for a prosecutor to win a case based on it.

As a result, observers here believe that United States military authorities may be carrying on a counter-espionage offensive against the Communists to protect their own interests.

It is believed the main work of Communist agents is to spy on the United States bases in Japan and the growing Japanese army. Agents are also believed to act as a communications channel between the Japanese Communist party and the Communist Chinese and Russian authorities.

CODE BOOKS

A Japanese arrested by police in Hokkaido last August led police to a place where he had hidden a set of code books for radio operators. Police said that the number of books found indicated that Communist espionage in Japan was more widespread than had previously been thought.

The Japanese, Sanjiro Seki, told police that he had been trained at a Russian spy school on Sakhalin to work as a spy courier.

The captain of a Russian patrol ship was seized by the police while trying to pick up Seki to take him back to Sakhalin. Both Seki and the Russian were tried on lesser charges owing to the absence of anti-espionage laws. The court found both men guilty.

'US Agents Kidnapped Me'

Allegations of kidnapping which followed Rastvorov's disappearance were not the first to be made against American intelligence agents.

Last year, the left-wing writer and critic, Wataru Kaji, returned to his home in Tokyo after a year's absence and claimed that he had been kidnapped and forcibly detained by American agents.

Kaji gave evidence before a committee of the Lower House of the Diet that the agents had continually questioned him and had forced him to sign a confession that he was a Communist agent. He said that the Americans then tried to persuade him to become a counter-spy.

DENIED KIDNAPPING

American authorities here denied any knowledge of the kidnapping.

Shortly after Kaji's return home, a radio operator, named Masao Mitsuhashi, was put on trial on a charge of operating an illegal transmitter.

Mitsuhashi, who was captured by the Russians at the end of the Pacific War, said that he began transmitting coded messages to Siberia following his repatriation to Japan. During his trial, he alleged that the man who had acted as an intermediary between himself and the Soviet Mission in Tokyo was Kaji. Kaji denied the allegations and declared that he had never met Mitsuhashi.

Mitsuhashi said that as a returned prisoner of war, he was questioned several times by United States intelligence officers. They discovered that he was acting as an agent for the Russians and he was ordered to continue receiving messages from the Soviet Mission but to pass them to United States in-

telligence before transmitting them. Both Kaji and Mitsuhashi stated that the senior American officer who questioned them was a Major Canyon. American officials said that no officer of that name had been in Japan. —China Mail Special.

Chinese View On Peace In Indo-China

London, Mar. 16.

The Communist New China News Agency quoted an article in the official Chinese Communist newspaper Peking Peoples Daily today as saying: "Peace can come to Indo-China through a negotiated agreement that respects the national independence and freedom of the peoples concerned—not by the United States and France continuing a hopeless war there."

The article, written by a Communist commentator, Hu Chin, said: "Any diplomatic or military manoeuvres on the part of the French Government causing difficulties at the Geneva conference will inevitably help American advocates of the policy of strength to carry out their plans of furthering French interests and sabotaging the Geneva conference."

Hu Chin claimed the United States was making no effort to force France to carry on the war.

The French Prime Minister, M. Joseph Laniel, in reaffirming his old promise of seeking a peaceful settlement of the Indo-China question, was at the same time demanding a continuance of bloodshed, the writer said. He was putting forward "so-called military terms for an armistice which are so absurd they have aroused immediate and widespread condemnation among French deputies and public opinion generally." —Reuters.

San Francisco, Mar. 16.

The Canadian Prime Minister, M. Louis St. Laurent, arrived here today on his way home after his tour of Europe and Asia.

"I don't think the people of Asia are thinking of anything but their own nationalistic aspirations. They want to run their affairs themselves. I don't think they want to be run from the Kremlin or by any other totalitarian organisation," he said.

"I found a lot of goodwill everywhere and a great deal of confidence that the world was not going to become a hot war," he said. —Straits.

"Parrot Fever" Fear: 60 Birds Killed

Bamberg, Germany, Mar. 16.

Sixty love birds in this area have been put to death, the State Veterinary Office announced today.

The Office said the birds were done away with on suspicion of carrying psittacosis, a common disease known as "parrot fever". The authorities said the disease, which has been reported in various parts of Germany, finally had been traced and the removal of the love birds was a preventive measure. —United Press.

Sharp Reply By Spanish Envoy To MPs

London, Mar. 16.

Spain's Ambassador to Britain, the Duke of Primo de Rivera, tonight sharply rejected a protest by 13 British Labour members of Parliament at the coming trial of 14 Basques in connection with strikes in Spain in 1931.

The MPs among them four former ministers at the Foreign Office—sent the protest to the Ambassador earlier today for transmission to General Franco.

They said the Spanish Government had taken "inhuman and unjust" action in putting the 14 on trial more than a year after they were released in an amnesty.

The Ambassador returned the protest and said in a letter that he was not prepared to send it on to Madrid.

He added: "Since the matter is the internal concern of a sovereign state, I could ask you to refrain in future from interfering in the internal affairs of my country as we refrain from interfering in yours."

The trial of the Basques, accused of illegal strikes, illegal trades union and political association and illegal propaganda, is due to open at Victoria, Spain, on March 25. The MPs said they now plan to send the protest direct to General Franco.

Among the signatories were two former Ministers of State, Mr Kenneth Younger and Mr Hector McNell, two former Foreign Under-Secretaries, Mr Christopher Mayhew and Mr Ernest Davies, and Mr John Hyn, Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party's Foreign Affairs Group.

Mr Davies has made representations to the British Office about the trial. Their protest today said they were "shocked" to learn of the planned trial, because when the men were released in an amnesty in 1952 it was understood that they would not be put on trial.

"These persons are accused of offences for which they were kept in prison for a year without trial and after being granted their freedom are to be tried for crimes allegedly committed three years ago," the protest said.

French Murder Trial Draws Big Crowd

Bordeaux, Mar. 16.

Marie Besnard, a 58-year-old widow now on trial for the poison murder of six relatives including her second husband, was described today by a Court psychiatrist as a perfectly normal and responsible individual—in fact, an abnormally normal person.

The testimony of the psychiatrist, Dr Andre Cellier, of the Paris Court of Appeals, was the salient feature of today's session and his statement was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience which packed the Court.

He said the mixing of arsenic with the food of her victims was an act which required a lot of intelligence. He added that he found nothing which indicated that she might have been suffering from some kind of sexual frustration due to the results of an operation.

Marie Besnard appeared relaxed and smiling at today's hearing in contrast to her tired and drawn composure yesterday when the trial opened. She has been in jail since 1940, two years after an investigation was started into what appeared to be the suspicious deaths of eleven of her relatives in as many years. The last one to die was her second husband, Leon Besnard, in 1947.

A first trial ended without decision because of technical difficulties. The second trial, which was held today, was Police Commissioner Michel Noquet, who said the case was "very strange." —Straits.

Guard Slept On Duty: 56 Day's Detention

Singapore, Mar. 16.

A British soldier, found guilty on a charge of sleeping while on guard duty, said in an explanation in a court martial here today he had been unwell and fainted.

The court martial, held at the Headquarters of the British Far East Land Forces, Singapore, sentenced the soldier, Private Robert Mather, 21, of the 1st Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, to 56 days' detention.

A warrant officer told the court that while doing his rounds as orderly sergeant he found Mather sleeping. Mather said he had fainted. —Straits.

Time is working for the Kremlin

Sefton Delmer's Newsmap takes a lesson from a startling report

HERE is something to shake the complacency out of you.

Remember how we have been told again and again about the backwardness of the Soviet economy, how they have not got the industrial potential or even the skilled workers to match the West in a shooting war? Well, here is the shock.

The national income of the Soviet Union and the productivity of the Soviet economic machine are expanding year by year at a rate "incomparably faster" than any Western country can show. And that includes the United States and Canada.

By 1970 the Soviet output will be four times what it is today. Who says so? The loudspeakers of Malenkov's propaganda apparatus? No sir. This is the careful assessment of a group of 31 top-notch American research economists employed by a number of American private and official intelligence agencies to keep a watch on the Soviet world.

These men have been pooling the results of their study over the last few years to make a collective stocktaking of the Soviet economy. Their report, edited by Mr. Abram Bergson, has just been published in book form.

Significant

AS the Economist points out in its review of the book, the authors of this report cannot be suspected of any sympathy for the Soviet regime or undue credulity.

On the contrary they approach every Soviet figure with utmost caution. They have deflated many of the blown-up claims of Soviet propaganda statistics. So it is a matter of the greatest significance and political importance that this American report comes to the conclusion that—

"Soviet industrial output in the next decades will increase

at a rate substantially greater than the United States rate."

I am all the more impressed with this American assessment because I know it coincides with the views of some of our own best-informed analysts of Soviet industrial development.

As I see it the picture here revealed means for you and me:

1 THERE WILL BE NO WAR

for at least the next ten years and probably longer. But

2 THERE WILL BE NO END

to the present cold war within that term.

For the Kremlin rulers, with the same general assessment of comparative rates of expansion to work on, must have decided that time is on their side. Indeed, Stalin shortly before his death said so.

Every year brings them closer to the war potential of the West. Every year the West becomes less redoubtable. Therefore the men in the Kremlin must say to themselves: Put off a showdown with arms and put off a settlement too.

Better living

DOES it mean that war after ten years or so is inevitable? No. For already Malenkov and his men are finding it advisable to make concessions to the increasing appetite of the Soviet millions for better living.

Such concessions have a way of stimulating appetites still further. There may be more demands for the comforts of peaceful wealth producing peace rather than for the negative self-denials and austerities of war and preparation for war.

The Kremlin intelligentsia too may begin to feel less heroic as new generations come along and want to consolidate their families in their new power.

A shock

ALL that is as maybe. But what is certain is that this report is a great shock to people like myself who have made two visits within the last 15 years to Russia; who have talked to German prisoners once working in Soviet industry, and who have gained from this personal and vicarious experience a picture which is the very reverse of industrial efficiency.

I cannot forget those boot shops in Moscow where the workers—long queues of them—could find only one size of goloshes and all of them left foot goloshes at that. Or the hotchpotch of machinery in the factories I visited. The printing presses in the Pravda offices which were being torn out of the floor by their own vibration. The cement in those new buildings in Stalingrad which was crumbling and cracking because it had been mixed at the wrong strength.

But I believe the picture all the same. Because there are so many unexpected achievements by the Soviet world. Those Olympic athletes! Who expected their records?

Their musicians! They sent them to festivals like that at Leipzig, and they came up against Western musicians. Everyone is amazed at the evidence given of immense hard work and discipline.

STALIN certainly made the greatest demands on the Russian people. What is coming out now seems to suggest that they have come near to living up to them.

(London Express Service)

The Thing That Never Forgets

By Chapman Pincher

A ROBOT "animal" which behaves more like a living creature than any machine ever built before has been invented by an Oxford University scientist.

This junior Frankenstein monster can find its way through a difficult maze and remembers all its mistakes, so that it put in the maze again, it gets through without taking a wrong turning.

Its "brain" is so big and heavy that its body, which is about the size of a half-grown rabbit, cannot carry it. A long, flexible cable keeps The Thing in touch with its "brain" as it moves purposefully on the three wheels which serve as legs.

Short Cut

If a short cut is introduced into the maze by removing part of the wall, The Thing is smart enough to take advantage of it.

It will remember what it has learned for ever unless its master, 28-year-old Anthony Deutsch, decides to obliterate its memory—which he can do at the press of a switch.

I saw the robot in action at Oxford's Institute of Experimental Psychology. It consists of three parts:

1 A three-wheeled chassis driven by two electric motors and fitted with sensitive "feelers" which cause it to steer away from obstacles or reverse out of corners.

2 A 20lb. "electronic brain" of valves, relays, and selectors linked with the chassis by a long cable.

3 A searchlight Cyclops "eye" which surveys the scene around it.

Mr. Deutsch, who built The Thing, put it at the entrance of a plywood maze with two possible exits.

I asked him to "tell" it to find its way out by the right-hand exit. He did this by making certain adjustments to the "brain"; then pressed a master switch. The robot's "eye" lit up, there was a whirr of wheels, and it began to move.

Blind Alleys

Slowly but deliberately it inched its way through the maze, half-attracted by the numerous blind alleys, but never making the mistake of going down one. Like a sensible animal it did not butt blindly at obstacles in its path, but found a way round them.

The Thing could not see, but photo-electric cells mounted on the walls of the maze gave its "brain" the information which eyes would have provided.

Triumphantly it emerged at the required exit.

Mr. Deutsch believes that his robot displays reasoning power, and to some extent has a mind of its own.

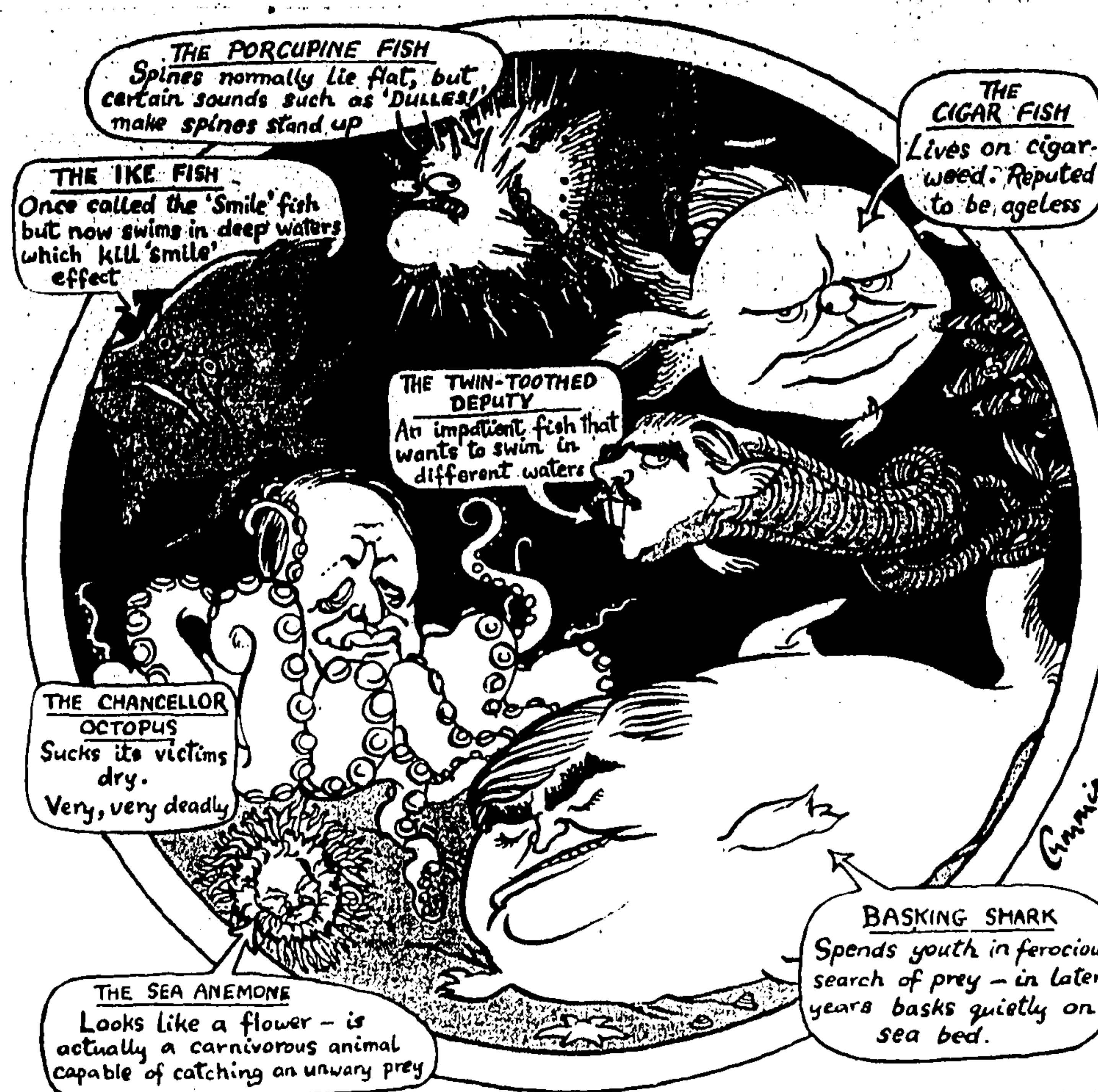
Thus, after solving one type of maze, it can find its way through another of different shape without going through any process of trial and error.

Why has Mr. Deutsch built the machine? Because, he believes that by experimenting with its "brain" he may learn more about how the brain of an animal works.

(London Express Service)

DENIZENS of the POLITICAL DEEP

as viewed far, far down from the Cummings bathyscaphe



London Express Service

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

TOO cold in the frozen Sea Nest to care about what is going on in Berlin, or how many millions of yards of cotton the Japanese are going to sell to the British Empire (founded by Lord Beaverbrook), or even if the West Indies win the second Test Match with or without their relatives as umpires, your Uncle Nat, huddled in two sweaters and a sheepskin jacket, has been comparing his birthday luck as predicted from day to day by the newspapers' astrologers, with actual experiences.

For instance here was one

PREDICTION

Don't be too cautious today. Alluring and unusual prospects may open out if you are flexible enough to take part in them. There is a fresh and vital wind blowing through your personal relationships.

WHAT HAPPENED

Outside The Nest there was an east wind fresh enough to freeze your vitals. The alluring prospect was a glass of hot rum in the warm and comfortable hotel only 60 yards away. Not feeling very flexible, but not wishing to be too cautious, your Uncle stepped out of the front door, was caught amidst the wind, slipped on a sheet of ice on the porch and in a moment was floundering on his back, legs and arms waving in the air like a Jumbo bug on the garden path.

PREDICTION

In most respects, grand. It's a wonderful day for negotiations, interviews or anything that requires the personal touch. Cupid? Expect him to be around.

WHAT HAPPENED

The intention was to interview the ratings officer about reassessment of rates. It was a grand day for Polar bears but not for interviewing the ratings officer, who was out. Leaving his office your Uncle trod heavily on the foot of a woman coming in. She screamed with pain and hopped madly about on her other foot, refusing to listen to apologies. Cupid? On a day like this only a fool would be around in his costume.

PREDICTION

Shrug off early disappointments. No matter how unfortunate you have been you can expect help from the best of friends.

WHAT HAPPENED

The disappointments were four days without a bath because of frozen pipes. The best of friends were the proprietors of the hotel who offered the hospitality of a bath.

cause of frozen pipes. The best of friends were the proprietors of the hotel who offered the hospitality of a bath.

Your Uncle went into the bathroom, turned on the hot water, which was near boiling point, and slipped. He turned on the cold tap. Nothing happened. The pipe was frozen. He tried the hot water with his toe, yelped and wondered what to do next.

Without a dressing gown to cover his nakedness it was not fair to ask a chambermaid to bring cold water into the bathroom, but there would be no scandal if she left it in the adjoining bedroom. The problem was to reach the bell in the bedroom without being discovered in the nude. What did one prediction say? Don't be too cautious.

So your reckless, naked Uncle unbolted the bathroom door, tipped into the bedroom and was looking wildly round for the bell push when a woman's voice outside the door said "I wonder if this is our room?"

Even Gordon Pirie couldn't have run faster back into the bathroom where your Uncle was obliged to have no more than a wash down with wet towels.

But in the bar afterwards he had the hot rum he didn't get when he slipped on the ice following up his first lucky prediction.

The Samovar

SINCE last week the Russian atmosphere at home has been perked up like the frost. Uncle Natya and his partner, The Plucky Little Tovarich, are still crouching over the samovar (teapot), talking like characters out of a Russian play.

Did you have your bath at the hotel, Uncle Natya?

No, Plucky Little Tovarich, I did not have my bath at the hotel.

I had a friend who was always going to do something brave and wonderful, but never did anything.

To the idealist life is a series of unfulfilled desires and dreams that never come true.

It is still very cold. Yes, it is very cold. I read somewhere that wolves had reached Trieste.

They will soon be here. You must be careful, Uncle Natya. It is said that wolves prefer the stronger scent of the unwashed.

What has happened to our old retainer, Anna Scrubovich? She has not come to scour or sweep since the frost.

She is old and fears the cruel wind and icy roads. It is more likely that she has gone to the Rialto.

Before the revolution gerts were not allowed to have tickets in lotteries.

If they had won they would have become impossible. But in the new world they can do anything. I wonder if ex-serf Anna Scrubovich is staying in Cannes or Nice?

She is probably bored with the gaming tables of Monte Carlo and is now resting in the sunshine at Menton, while you do the washing up.

Perhaps an elderly French count is making eyes at the rich Englishwoman in a cafe. Perhaps he will carry her off to some romantic castle.

It is more likely that the wolves have got her. I think I can hear them howling now. No. That is the wind. It is very cold.

Doctor Tells

AS you might have expected, here comes Dr Gubbins the notorious Fleet Street quack, with some obvious advice on how to keep warm during the cold weather.

If the weather is warmer by the time the doctor's message is published you can cut it out and keep it for the next freezing spell, which will probably be in June.

Long before there were doctors to give advice about anything people realised that there were several ways of keeping warm in winter.

One was to wear warm clothes, another was to take shelter in a warm place, another to eat plenty of warm food, and yet another to take plenty of vigorous exercise.

Our savage ancestors, who know as much about these matters as Dr Gubbins, or any qualified doctor, adopted all these methods. They took vigorous exercise—hunting animals, wore the animals' skins, warmed their caves with cooking fires, and filled their stomachs with meat.

The chief difference between these sensible people and a silly creature like you is that they took these precautions without making anybody's advice where you want to be told everything.

Very well, then. If like the majority of people in this country you live in a cold house, you must either make it warmer or wear warmer clothing indoors. If you live in a warm house you can wear lighter clothing indoors and warmer clothing when you go out. Got it? Splendid.

Although the savage only knew that a full stomach made him feel warmer you will want to know why. You will also want to know what to eat, when to eat it, and all about calories, vitamins and vitamin intake.

But I dare say knee-squinting is a bit out of date now except in the offices of old-fashioned captains of industry. This little chap endures in the privacy of their homes, smiling bravely through their tears as the red-hot pains of pins and needles shoot up and down their tiny spindly shanks.

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[World Copyright]

BOGEY MAN TO BRITONS

By LES ARMOUR

London. ASK 100 Englishmen to name the five best-known Americans and the odds are about 99 to 1 that Senator Joseph R. McCarthy will head all the lists.

The junior Senator from Wisconsin is far better published in these islands than President Eisenhower. This week, the two biggest national newspapers printed cartoons proclaiming boldly that Senator McCarthy is the Voice behind the White House.

Recently, McCarthy's foud with the U.S. Army crowded everything else into a small place in the headlines.

Britons are fascinated, alarmed, and made sick at the stomach by McCarthy. To them, he appears as a giant bogey man stalking the length and breadth of America, spreading terror in his wake.

The situation has reached such proportions that Americans are beginning to protest.

Lengthy Blast

The liberal-socialist bible of the left-wing intellectuals, the New Statesman and Nation, carried a lengthy blast from Paul Jacobs, executive member of the Civil Liberties Union of California, suggesting that its editorial policy was presenting a distorted view of the climate of American opinion by painting McCarthy as a virtually unopposed tyrant.

The Statesman's editor, Kingsley Martin, replied at even greater length. But the reply boiled down to an argument which sums the British view in a few words: "We don't see much evidence of opposition to McCarthyism."

Britons are sure that, if McCarthy were operating here, he would be put in his place promptly, whatever the government of the day.

They know it would take only one McCarthy incident to ruin the British public. The thing could never get to a whole list of outrages.

From that, they reason that McCarthyism must be deeply ingrained in the United States. They see in President Eisenhower's failure to hit back either a shocking weakness or an implicit acceptance of McCarthy's tactics.

That is what is engaging American liberals.

Long Process

It is difficult to make it clear in Britain that the United States has none of the homogeneity which characterises British political opinion, and that the American system of government is so much more complex that the direct action possible here usually has to be replaced here by a long and cumbersome process.

Sectional interests—as they are known in the United States—are practically non-existent in Britain, and the Englishmen get a clear picture of them only in cases like the Truman-Stevenson antagonism of the South, which probably did more than anything else to ensure Eisenhower's election.

To the Briton, the argument that Eisenhower must tread softly in order to avoid endangering national unity sounds almost vicious.

And it is no easier here to understand the American fear of Communism. Communists in Britain—except when they get tangled in industrial disputes—are a kind of national joke. They are out in the open for everyone to see, assess, and ridicule, and they are not very numerous.

In the end, the difference is one of fundamental attitudes. There is no hope of reconciling them and little point in arguing their rival merits. History and national psychology have left their imprint on both countries, and the attitudes are a direct result of that imprint.

Britons can only hope to get a more balanced view of McCarthyism by looking at it from a little more loudly and a little more often.

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JAMES PARK VISITS NOEL MURLESS THE QUEEN WOULD BE DELIGHTED WITH LANDAU'S PRESENT APPEARANCE

The Queen, with an eye for a horse, would be delighted with the present appearance of her classic colt, Landau. The photograph on this page is eloquent testimony to well-being and robust health.

It may not convey the sheen on his coat, which is like polished ebony, or the compactness, symmetry and balance. The combination adds up to a well-nigh perfect model of the thoroughbred.

Landau was a good-looking two-year-old without being the finished article. His development during the winter has, I am sure, greatly pleased Noel Murless. I would not say the colt has grown a lot, but he is bigger than he looks. Out of exercise he looked small compared with some of the others in the stable. In his box a close-up inspection reveals him to be more than 10 hands.

He is full of life and always on his toes. He has what is known as character and that is an asset usually found in the high-class thoroughbred. Murless was prompt to catch any idea that the colt is other than an honest-to-goodness workman.

ERADICATED

The only time he misbehaved was in his second race at Ascot.

That is what makes him difficult to weigh up accurately. After Ascot he did not meet any of the topnotchers, but the official estimate is that he is within 1lb. of the best of his age—eliminating The Pie King.

I have heard all sorts of stories about the dark ones in the stable. I am not troubling about them until Landau has had a chance to prove himself on the racecourse. I appreciate the promise and tremendous scope of some of the more backward ones, but none fills my eye to the same extent as Landau.

NO DOUBT

Bred as he is, there should not be any doubt about Landau staying in mile and a half. I think that is also the opinion of Noel Murless.

It might be looking too far ahead, but I take the risk of being on a good hiding to nothing in saying Sir Gordon Richards might make up for lost time by riding his second Derby winner in succession.

And after looking at the two-year-olds at Warren Place I don't mind taking a shade of odds that Sir Gordon will be bewitching us once more in 1955. He just couldn't retire with such an enticing prospect before him.

Plans for Landau are not definite. He will have an outing before the 2,000 Guineas, probably away from Newmarket.

Not until after the first of the season's classic races can his future be discussed with any certainty. I have already expressed the belief that he will go a long way. How wonderful if Landau could welcome the Queen back from her tour with a victory at Epsom on June 2.

(—London Express Service)



Noel Murless (on horseback) who is training the Queen's two-year-old colt, Landau, is seen here at his stables at Warren Place, Newmarket.

Mr Murless is pleased with the colt's development during the winter and said that he has never given the slightest trouble in or out of the stable. — Express Photo.

"I REGRET THE DAY I LEFT ARSENAL"

Says RAY DANIEL

(The Wales, Sunderland and ex-Arsenal centre-half tells of the mistake he made in leaving Highbury for Roker Park last summer).

I have nothing whatever against the Sunderland club beyond anger at being dropped from the team after we were knocked out of the Cup by Doncaster at Roker Park. I want to make that quite clear. I admit I resented that decision, I think it was unfair, but that alone would not make me insist on a move South.

I have not been able to settle down at Roker Park. The defensive system is so different from the one I was used to at Highbury. I am not blaming individual players, I blame the system. It has been the cause of my troubles and unhappiness.

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At Highbury all of us in the defence knew that if one made a mistake someone would bob up and all would be well. I am afraid I can't say the same up here.

So you will appreciate my feelings when I say I have come to the conclusion that I was wrong to leave Highbury. That was an unhappy decision, and I'm sorry.

I feel I am being blamed unduly for the position. Sunderland find themselves in fourth place on the foot of the table and in danger of going down for the first time in the club's history.

I am shirking no responsibility and readily admit my share of our failures. But I think I have had to shoulder much more than my share of criticism.

I think the transfer business has a lot to do with the plight I find myself in. It is a terrible ordeal for a defender to play up to his prior tag, especially mine. What was that? £30,000? I just don't know.

NOT SUCH AN ORDEAL
It's not such an ordeal for forwards. They can, by making or scoring goals, repay or show some reason for a big fee. With defenders it's different. They can't wash out blunders by a goal or a share in one. One mistake and you're out.

I know lots of people will say: "I told you so" when they read I've made two requests to the club for a transfer in my first season with Sunderland. Well, I can't help it, for there is another very good reason for wanting to move South—my wife Joyce.

She is expecting our first baby in June and you won't wonder that she wants to be near her home in Swansea. Sunderland is an awful long way from Wales for a girl in her position.

We both are thankful to the Sunderland directors for providing us with a lovely house and doing everything they possibly can to make us happy, and for this reason it was a big decision to take to ask to leave. I am nearly demoralized that I have not been as successful as I had hoped and thus been able to repay them and Mr Bill Murray, the manager, for their kindness and confidence.

But if I could turn the clock back one year and find myself back at Highbury my troubles would be over.

P.S. From Sunderland chairman Mr E.W. Ditchburn: "We shall not transfer Daniel. We think he is still a fine player, and needs one or two top-class games, and a win or two to show his old Arsenal confidence."



The Queen's colt Landau—well-nigh perfect.

Sound-Track War

By DILYS POWELL

While in the cinema the public enjoy idyllic pleasures a bloody battle is raging in what Hollywood knows as the front office.

It began a couple of months ago, when an influential theatre-owner in America gave practical expression to his views on the stereophonic equipment of Cinemascope.

Perhaps I had better remind you that so far we in England have seen three attempts at changing the traditional aspect of the films: 3-D or deep-focus, for which polaroid spectacles must be worn; the wide screen, which, widening the rectangle makes it slightly concave and rather more than one and a half times as broad as it is high; and Cinemascope, which deepens the curve, makes the width two and a half times the height, and adds stereophonic or as it is called directional sound. In Cinemascope up now three films only have been shown here: "The Robe," "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," and "Beneath the Twelve-Mile Reef."

But to get back to the battle-field, Mr Reade, for that is the American exhibitor's name, decided that in small theatres at least a pointless luxury to install Cinemascope's stereophonic sound, which uses four magnetic sound-tracks and a number of loud-speakers in the attempt to make the dialogue proceed from the direction of the players involved, whether on or off screen.

No doubt Mr Reade felt, as I do, that it was merely distracting to hear a voice suddenly booming from the emergency exit or the point in the auditorium marked Gentlemen. Anyhow, in one of his cinemas, by using a "mixer" to channel the four tracks into a single loud-speaker, he succeeded in turning stereophonic sound back into old-fashioned, non-directional, take-it-as-it-comes sound, thereby saving himself the installation of extra speakers and a great deal of money.

This simple but effective retort to progress made no appeal to the sponsors of Cinemascope. Twentieth Century-Fox, who from the start have insisted that the complete equipment—full stereophonic sound and what is modestly

called the Miracle Mirror screen—is essential to their films. No stereophonic sound, no supply of films, said Fox, and in the consequent wrangle adjustments were threatened, comparative tests of stereophonic and ordinary sound were arranged and disarranged, and all parties looked equally misunderstood.

From the weekly American commentary of "The Cinema" I gather that Mr Reade has now made a tactical retreat by agreeing under protest to put the full Cinemascope trimmings in all his theatres. But the war is still on.

Meanwhile, in England a distressing lack of docility among exhibitors is evident. To begin with Mr Rank and his party, who are committed to equipping seventy-five cinemas, have refused to install stereophonic sound in any more. No stereophonic sound, no Cinemascope, say Fox again; and since the company are making all their films in Cinemascope this must mean the end of the arrangement by which the Rank circuits have for years been first go at Twentieth Century-Fox's films.

Fox therefore proceed to offer the delights of Cinemascope on the open market; the independent exhibitor, in fact, has his chance at last. But the exhibitor cannot afford three or four thousand pounds to re-equip his theatre. Even if he is allowed to use some other form of wide screen and given credit (which Fox seem inclined to offer) he still feels he cannot afford it. What is more, he suspects that he is being manoeuvred into a position where he can be dictated to.

ALWAYS THE DANGER

For there is always the danger that other American companies, for instance Warner and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, who are adopting Cinemascope, will deliver the same ultimatum: stereophonic sound or nothing.

More and more Cinemascope films are being planned; there is talk of a Cinemascope newsreel, and in America as well as in Britain exhibitors are afraid that soon there will be too few of the old-fashioned films to go round.

To make sure of a show-window Twentieth Century-Fox have taken over two cinemas in the West End, the Carlton and the Odéon, Marble Arch, where once the quota for British films has been satisfied, nothing but Cinemascope will be seen.

Now another big American company, Paramount, have announced a new system which, they say, binds nobody to anything, which is cheaper, which will turn out wide films, narrow films, stereophonic sound, ordinary sound, which will in fact do everything but fill in the tax form.

In the circumstances one can understand the British exhibitor's determination to wait and see. Audiences worry little about systems, and a friend of mine came away from "Shane," a four-by-three film shown on a wide screen, under the impression that shape and sound were the same as with Cinemascope's stereophonic "How to Marry a Millionaire."

HKFC TEAM

The following will represent Club in their First Division soccer match against Eastern tomorrow at 5 p.m. at Club: Campbell, Armstrong, Tarpey, MacDonald, Foster, Falconer, Bann, Mullin, McGregor, Macdonald, Piddington, reserves, Macdonald, Piddington, Jones.

London.

In the front offices the sawn-off shot-guns are out. But I have yet to meet an unbiased member of the public who finds in stereophony anything more than a slight pain in the ears.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Melbourne, Mar. 17.
The Duke of Edinburgh has accepted an honorary life membership of the Melbourne Cricket Club.

The Club Secretary, Mr Vernon Ransford, revealed that the gold medal of life membership was presented to the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit here.

In accepting the medal, the Duke said he would probably use it at the Olympic Games in 1956.

There are only 11 life members of the Club, and they include the Duke of Windsor, the Duke of Gloucester and three members of English teams who had visited Australia—Mr G. L. Jessop, Mr N. F. Bruce and Mr J. R. Mason. —China Mail Special.

GREATEST MILE?

Vancouver, Mar. 17.
The greatest mile run in athletics history may be seen in the British Empire and Commonwealth games here this summer. This has been made possible by the nomination of John Landy in Australia's team.

Landy, Britain's Roger Bannister and New Zealand's Murray Halberg, who are all expected to compete, are runners close to the coveted four-minute mile.

Landy and Bannister have both clocked 4 minutes 2 seconds and Halberg last month did four minutes 4.4 seconds in Auckland. —China Mail Special.

London, Mar. 17.
No boxers from the Soviet Union or satellite countries are included in the European amateur boxing team to meet the United States in the Golden Gloves contests on May 20 and 25.

Poland (5), the Soviet Union (2) and East Germany (1) won titles in the European Championships in Warsaw last May. These and all other member federations of the International Amateur Boxing Association were asked to nominate boxers but some declined and others did not reply at all. —China Mail Special.

Saranac Lake, New York, Mar. 16.
Michael Egan, 75, who claimed to be the "undefeated" handball champion of the world, died yesterday. —United Press.

SANDY SADDLER WILL BE BACK NEXT MONTH AMONG THE FEATHERWEIGHTS

New York, Mar. 16.

Sandy Saddler gets out of the U.S. Army in April and his tune-up bouts after that will be watched closely to see if the World Featherweight Champion is finished as a top-rank boxer.

Saddler gave promise of being a really great fighter as he slashed his way to the title in 1948, lost it in 1949 and regained it in 1950, but his performances in 1951 and 1952 until he went into the Army were disappointing.

In 1950, three months after he beat Willie Pep in a title match, Saddler lost a 10-round decision to Del Flanagan, who was in command all the way. In 1951 Saddler lost twice to Paddy deMaree, a rough, brawling brawler with no finesse and not much punching power, and in 1952 Sandy lost a 10-round decision to George Araujo, lost on a disqualification to Armand Savic and knocked Tommy Collins before entering service.

Of course, Sandy won nine bouts by kayo in 1951 plus two decisions, but many of the bouts were tainted by rough, dirty fighting unworthy of a champion. The Pop-Saddler brawl in September of 1951 was so dirty that both men were suspended by the New York Commission.

TOOK MANY PUNCHES

Sandy now is stationed at an Army base in New York City, so he recently boxed at Madison Square Garden about against Bill Bossio, seven inches shorter than the champion. Saddler won on a kayo after nine rounds, but took many punches en route to victory.

"I felt real good, but Bossio was hard to hit," explained Sandy.

"Sandy did not look good," admitted manager Charley Johnston. "But, after all, it was his first fight in 22 months. He will need three or four tune-ups before defending his title."

Not all the experts believe the 27-year-old Saddler will ever regain the form he showed in 1948-49. In those years he was a slashing, clean-punching, fast-punching fighter. He rarely clinched, and he rarely was warned by the referee for any infractions.

Later in his career he was constantly in trouble with the referee for low blows, wrestling and other improper actions.

It remains to be seen if Saddler can revert to his earlier form. Sandy almost insists he will be as good as ever after his tune-ups.

"I need the fights to get back into shape and to get my timing right," he said. "Then I will be ready for any of them."

—United Press.

Army 'B' End Season With Great Record

The Army 'B' XI has completed its fixture list with the record of 20 games played and 20 games won. Highest scores, each made in 112 minutes, were 202 for 4 wickets, declared against IRC and 250 for 4 wickets declared against University.

The highest score against the Army 'B' XI was 170 by Reccolo but Army won this game by 7 wickets, scoring the runs in 21 overs.

In this game Captain Petty made 100; 2/Lt Cochrane made 108 not out against University. The Army have averaged 21.5 runs per wicket against their opponents 7.7 and have scored at the rate of 0 runs an over to their opponents 3.8.

Leading averages are:—
Batting
Rt Hon N.O. Highest Av. Score
Capt Pierce 213 7 3 32 n.o. 63.3
2/Lt Cochrane 309 0 1 105 n.o. 36.0
Maj Bennett 120 7 3 39 n.o. 30.0
Maj Forth 225 2 3 81 n.o. 25.8
Capt Petty 262 10 0 100 26.2
2/Lt Thorpe 120 0 0 87 25.8
Maj Budge 80 0 1 71 24.0
Capt Dewar 206 11 1 61 20.6
Bowling
M R W Av.
2/Lt Weir 204 3 32 18 4.7
Maj Evans 848 24 217 41 6.7
Maj Pierce 848 24 217 41 6.7
Maj Bennett 164 2 60 12 5.7
Maj McCosh 112 15 190 28 6.9
Maj Clark 484 0 171 24 12.2
Ctn Dewar 20.7 2 140 17 8.0

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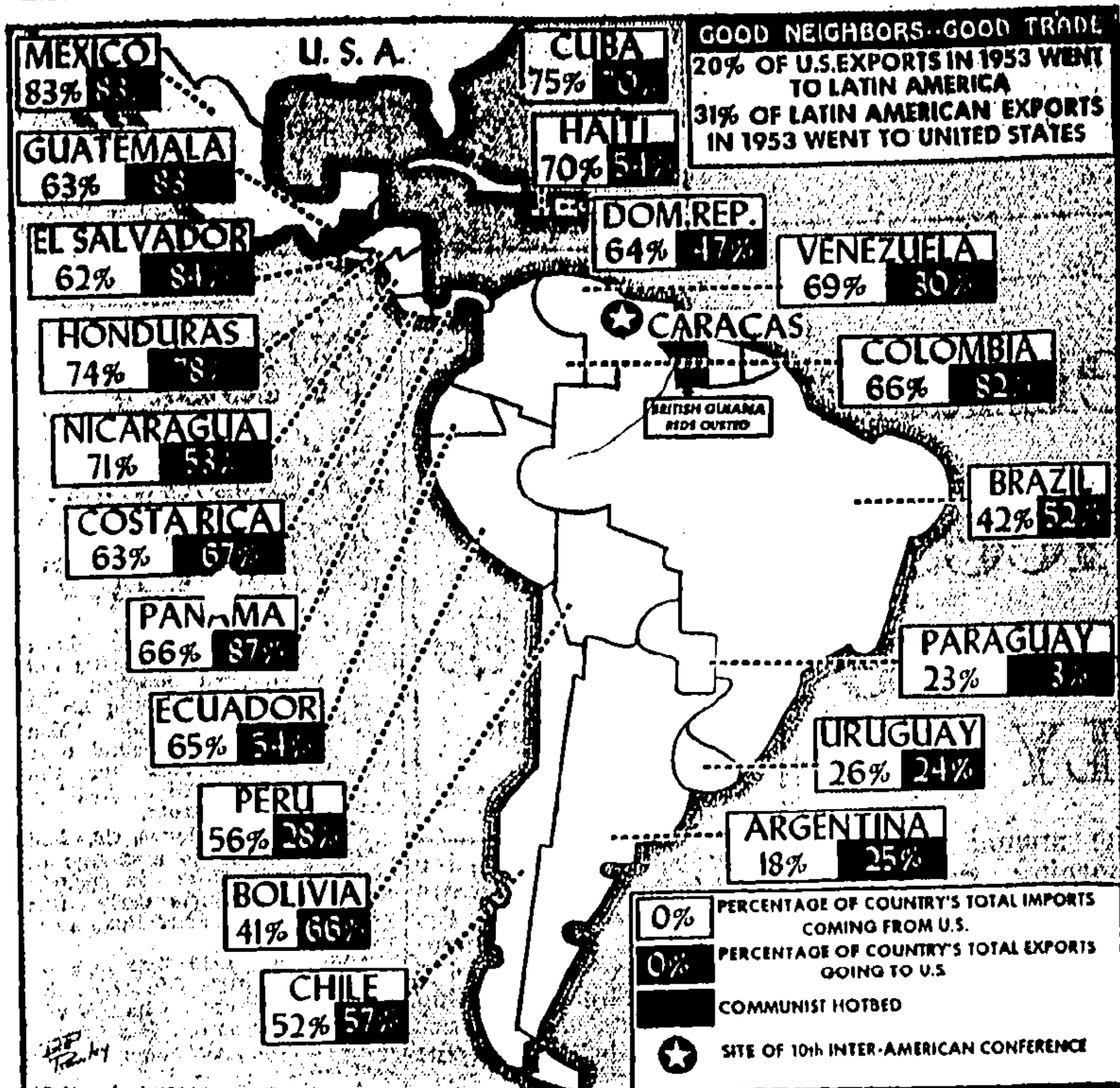
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Conference At Caracas On Colonialism, Coffee & Communism

By Sigrid Arne, AP Newsfeatures Writer

The American delegation is operating amid a difficult set of cross-purposes at the Caracas, Venezuela, conference of the Organisation of American States.

The Organisation can dicker about any problem that hits the Western Hemisphere, from the northern border of the United States to the southern tip of Argentina.

The trouble is that the United States specially wants one top problem solved, the control of Communism in the hemisphere, and the 20 Latin American nations are putting the emphasis on another problem—economic development and a steady trade with the United States.

Communism has a hold in only one nation in the hemisphere, Guatemala. U.S. Government intelligence says that "fellow travelers" in the Guatemalan Government are openly appointing known Communists to key government positions.

Whether the Puerto Rican Nationalists are Communists or Communist-inclined is debatable. The Nationalists say NOT; that their party simply wants independence for Puerto Rico.

Just as the conference was opening in Caracas on March 1, four Nationalists prayed the U.S. House of Representatives chamber with bullets and hit five members of Congress.

That hectic afternoon recalled the one on which the last Organisation conference opened, in Bogotá, Colombia, in 1948. Riots broke out there resulting in the wounding of the centre of the city and the killing of about 1,500 people. There was a belief the riots were Communist directed, but the riot leaders disclaimed the charge.

Mr. Dulles would like to see the Caracas conference adopt a strong resolution to crack down on Communism throughout the hemisphere.

But the Latin nations have had a long battle to free themselves from European colonial powers. Britain, the Netherlands and France still have so-called

in Latin America. These Governments are wary of any international move which might, conceivably, permit outside nations to inquire into events in Latin America.

At Caracas there will have to be a good deal of man-to-man talk, and most of that off the record, to awaken Latin American Governments to the threat of Communism. Pre-conference intelligence reports said the United States would get support for its stand on Communism from Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

On the other hand the Latin countries want some assurance they can sell a steady amount of goods at steady prices, to the United States.

The trouble is that most of them are dependent on one or two major products for sales abroad, such as coffee, wool or minerals. US purchases have gone up and down over the years, both in volume and price.

There is very little the United States could do to even them out except to set up a sort of New Deal for Latin America, with subsidies that would keep prices stable. State Department experts feel the United States "can probably do very little" along that line. Congress feels American subsidies to other countries should be cut down in

order to reduce the US government debt.

US trade experts feel that if the South American Governments want a more even trade with the United States they should be ready to ease the path for private American investors. All of the Latin nations now hamper foreign investments in some way or another.

Long-Range View

State Department experts, who have to take the long-range view, say that Latin America is now putting up capital at a high rate. In addition, its population may double in the next 50 years. If the United States and the Latin countries can remain friendly, trade south of the border can become a more and more important market for US factories.

The United States will play a quiet role in the quarrel over "colonialism," the resentment of Latin American Governments controlling portions of South America. In particular, the United States will reassert its demand for British Honduras, and Argentina will demand, again, the British-held Falkland Islands.

The United States will claim that these matters of territory are not a proper subject for debate between the European colonial powers are not represented at Caracas.

US policy is to work "ultimately" to the point where colonies are given the chance to vote on what Government they want. The United States has set the pattern by giving that choice to Puerto Rico.

There will be some lesser debates in so far as the United States is concerned.

Like Chicken Pox

One is the matter of "political asylum," which is important among Latin countries where revolutions have erupted like chicken pox. An unsated leader takes safety in a neighbouring country or its embassy, and his own country gets irritated.

Peru and Colombia are embroiled on this subject.

Five years ago Colombia granted asylum in its embassy in Lima to Victor Haya de la Torre, a left-wing Peruvian leader. Peru has taken this case to the World Court, as yet without decisive answer.

Latin American nations have expressed fear that exiled leaders have used asylum in other countries to work up new revolutions at home.

The US delegation hopes the Latin nations involved will be able to settle this question by themselves.

[Editor's note: Since this article was written, the American Secretary of State Mr. John Foster Dulles succeeded in persuading the Conference to pass a resolution, which, it is pointed out, the extension of Communist influence in Latin American countries, Guatemala, Cuba, and Haiti, is a threat to the resolution.]

New York Sugar Market

New York, Mar. 16. World No. 4 sugar futures today closed unchanged to one point lower with sales of 108 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 1 point lower to 2 points higher with sales of 210 contracts.

World futures moved irregularly on a quiet intra-dealer business while raw prices held unchanged.

Domestic futures were quiet, reflecting a slow situation in the raw market.

Future closings were:

Contract No. 4 (World)	Price
May	3.20 1/2
July	3.15 1/2
September	3.10 1/2
October	3.05 1/2
January (1955)	3.00 1/2
March	2.95 1/2
May	2.90 1/2
July	2.85 1/2
Open Interest	6,074 contracts.

Contract No. 6

Price	
May	3.72 1/2
July	3.67 1/2
September	3.62 1/2
October	3.57 1/2
January (1955)	3.52 1/2
March	3.47 1/2
May	3.42 1/2
July	3.37 1/2
Open Interest	6,000 contracts.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

SLOW DELIVERY OF TEXTILES CRITICISED US Report On British Knitware Exports

London, March 16. Delays in the delivery of British textiles to United States markets are criticised in a Report published here by the American Chamber of Commerce in a Report written by Mr R. W. J. Simmons, Chairman of the North American Buying Offices Committee, a special sub-committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in London.

Reviewing the position of British consumer goods exports to the United States, the Report says that "most of manufacturers of knitware were late with deliveries. In many cases merchandise arrived just prior to Christmas, resulting in serious inventory problem and carry-overs into 1954."

"Regardless of complaints from all purchasers, manufacturers do not seem to have resolved this delivery problem. Spinners are blamed for late delivery of yarn, also for poor spinning, resulting in a slowing up of production."

"In this day and age excuses such as these are no answer to the problem, and either the manufacturers must restrict books to known capacity, or the spinners must be made to understand that their responsibility is to the ultimate link with the general public which necessitates merchandise being made available at the psychological time."

However, the Report states that shipments of pure cashmere and lambs wool were again very high, especially for women's wear in 1953.

Among other textiles, a continued decline in the demand for linen damasks is reported, owing to more informal ways of life, laundering problem, and the development of plastics and other materials for table use.

MAINTAINED ITS GRIP

But Lancashire continued to maintain its grip on the market for cottons, especially in novelty fabrics for both men's and women's wear, and home furnishings. Retailers and manufacturers are particularly interested in the comparatively short runs that the progressive mills are able to offer, and by producing the greatest variety of new ideas it is possible to

compete with the domestic suppliers, the report states.

The demand for high grade pyjamas and rain-coats continues.

"While the acceptance of the classic T-shirt continues to decline, the maintenance of quality by the few manufacturers interested in the North American market has redounded to their benefit. The combination of superlative quality with adaptation to US requirements has been marked."

As regards carpets, the Report states that acceptance in Canada remains at a high level with an increase of approximately 33 per cent in volume. In 1953, there was a further decline in exports to the United States, due to the inability of British makers to meet either domestic or European competition.

"It is interesting to note that exports of woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures to the United States show a decrease of £1,500,000, while to Canada the increase amounted to 50 per cent (£8,000,000).—China Mail Special.

Standard Oil Cuts Output In California

San Francisco, Mar. 16. Standard Oil Company of California today announced that it is reducing its daily production by about 6,000 barrels in California because of "excessive above-ground accumulations of heavy residual petroleum stocks."

President T. S. Petersen said the demand for heavy fuel oils—the main product taken from these residual stocks—has not kept pace with other products.

He attributed this partly to imports of natural gas from Texas at a rate equivalent to 125,000 barrels of oil a day.

He said that the Company also is reducing further its imports of foreign oil into California, because of the size of distillate stocks on hand.

"Starting in March and through the second quarter, we plan to reduce our imports 10,000 to 12,000 barrels daily below the January-February levels."

"This will bring our import rate down to about 23,000 barrels daily."

Standard's import rate for the second 1953 quarter was 38,000 barrels a day.

Meanwhile, residual crude stocks in California for the week ended March 13 stood at 17,700 barrels, against 8,400,000 a year ago, according to the American Petroleum Institute.—United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

United Press.

US Exports Fall In January

Washington, Mar. 16. The Commerce Department reported today that United States exports dropped 16 per cent last January as compared to a year ago.

Exports totalled about \$1,000,000,000 last January and \$1,200,000,000 in January, 1953. The January, 1954, level also represented a drop from the preceding month of December, 1953, when the export total was \$1,349,000,000.

Imports also dropped, totalling \$837,000,000 this January and \$922,000,000 in January, 1953.—United Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange today amounted to \$804,888.70. Noon quotations and the morning's dealings:—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS

HSBC Bank ... 1000

East Asia ... 100

INSURANCES

Lombard ... 55

Underwriters ... 800

DOCKS, ETC.

K. Wharf KD 60

Dock ... 21 240

Provident ... 11.00 12.70

(O) KD ... 12.00 12.70

Wharfedale ... 140 215

Whitcomb ... 7.90 8.05

LAND, ETC.

HK Hotel KD 0.04 0.20 1000 4 9.10

Star Line ... 1 1/2

Humphreys ... 18.50

Realty ... 2.12 1/2 2.20

UTILITIES

Tram KD ... 27.50 28.70

Star Ferry ... 131 134

C. Light (O) ... 16.70 16.30

2000 @ 16.10

3000 @ 16.20

500 @ 16.20

200 @ 16.20

200 @ 16.20

700 @ 16.20

2000 @ 16.10

2000 @ 16.10

500 @ 16.20

Electric KD ... 31 1/2 31 1/2

Telep. KD ... 28.40

1000 @ 28 1/2

INDUSTRIALS

Cement KD ... 16.40

STOCKS, ETC.

Dairy ... 27.40 27.00

1000 @ 27 1/2

500 @ 27 1/2

200 @ 27 1/2

Watson ... 16.70

L. Crawford ... 20 @ 21

COTTONS

Ewo ... 1200 @ 1.85

3000 @ 1.85

3000 @ 1.85

Textile Corp. 7.60 7 1/2

MISCELLANEOUS

Yumalt ... 140

Allied Inv. ... 4.10 4.12 1/2 1000 @ 4.10

LONDON METAL PRICES

London, Mar. 16.

Spot ... 72 1/2

3-months ... 72 1/2

6-months ... 72 1/2

Spot ... 224

3-months ... 224 1/2

6-months ... 224 1/2

Lead ... 85 1/2

March ... 84 1/2

June ... 84 1/2

Zinc ... 73 1/2

March ... 73 1/2

June ... 73 1/2

All prices in sterling per long ton.

—United Press.

—United Press.

—United Press.

Indonesia Seeks Wider Trade With Communists

Djakarta, Mar. 16. Indonesia is short of foreign exchange and is greatly attracted by prospects of trade with Communist countries, observers believe.

Two recent moves by Russia are attracting interest here; Russia has indicated she may buy 100,000 tons of low grade rubber and this has raised hopes that Russia would send power equipment, machinery and consumer goods in return for raw materials.

Russia has also shown willingness lately to pay some of her debts in the form of payment which Indonesia would welcome.

There have also been reports that Russia is interested in Indonesian tin, although no definite figures have been given.

The other Russian move—offer of technical help—has also created interest although most officials are waiting for some definite offer.

Left inclined Indonesian officials have heard reports of the work of Soviet technicians in central Asia and China. They are particularly interested in road and bridge construction and power.

But existing agreements with China and Eastern Europe have been "unsatisfactory," according to informed sources here.

Indonesia wants to sell its raw materials—rubber, tin and copra mainly—and get in return foreign exchange or capital goods for development of the country.

The three trade agreements with Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary which Indonesia has already signed, each shows a substantial trade surplus for Indonesia, but the surpluses are in currencies which cannot be converted in the United States or through the West European Payments Union to buy the things Indonesia needs.

"It is as if we are giving them a loan, one official said."

Another trade agreement which Indonesia recently concluded with China, providing for the sale of 100,000 tons of Indonesian rubber, has been shelved for other reasons.

Indonesia, as a member of the United Nations is observing the United Nations embargo on the shipment of strategic goods to China.—China Mail Special.

Singapore Rubber Market

Singapore, Mar. 16.

After a steady opening the market eased slightly on profit-taking. There were some enquiries in the afternoon with prices steadier a bit. Future closings were:

No. 1 rubber per lb. ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

April ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

May ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

No. 2 rubber per lb. ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

April ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

May ... 54 1/2-54 1/2

No. 3 rubber per lb. ... 53 1/2-53 1/2

April ... 53 1/2-53 1/2

May ... 53 1/2-53 1/2

No. 4 rubber per lb. ... 52 1/2-52 1/2

April ... 52 1/2-52 1/2

May ... 52 1/2-52 1/2

Spot rubber (unsmoked) ... 48 1/2-48 1/2

Blonde No. 1 pale crepe ... 62-64

NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Mar. 16.

Rubber futures today closed 3 points higher to 4 points lower with sales of 69 contracts.

Despite the irregular changes, dealers said the market showed an overtone of steadiness in line with the improvement in later London cables and evidence of a quickening consumer interest in the local spot market.

Dealers quoted spot No. 1 Ras at 20 1/2 cents a pound and indicated that buyers were becoming more inclined to meet the higher basis for shipment offerings. Futures closed as follows:—

March ... 20.15

April ... 19.95

May ... 19.75

June ... 19.55

Sept. ... 19.35

Dec. ... 19.15

March ... 20.00

April ... 19.80

May ... 19.60

June ... 19.40

—United Press.

—United Press.

—United Press.

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